

C1239

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Question without notice

(of which some notice is given)

Submitted on Thursday, 20 October 2016

Hon Robin Chapple MLC to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Tourism:

I refer to your tweet on 25 August, 2016, in which you stated the significance of the rock art on the Burrup Peninsula and its likely candidacy for World Heritage Listing, and ask:

1. Having made that video and tweeted it in the public domain, will the Minister for tourism pursue world heritage listing as he suggested?
2. If no to (1), please justify why not.
3. As Minister for Tourism would the Premier lobby the Minister for State Development to relinquish the remaining proposed industrial sites on the Burrup Peninsula back to Murujuga National Park?
4. If no to (3), please justify why not.

Answer:

(1-2) The Government continues to work with the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation and industry to preserve the ancient rock carvings on the Burrup Peninsula for future generations.

All Aboriginal sites in the area are afforded protection under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*; and the area is also protected through the creation of the Murujuga National Park. It has been included on the National Heritage list and is also protected under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act).

While World Heritage status would not afford additional statutory protection, I believe that in the future the northern area could become a World Heritage site, which could be used in promoting tourism.

However, this process would take some time and be predicated by consultation with local stakeholders, including industry.

(3-4) It is not envisioned that proposed industrial sites would be relinquished in the future.

